

## Message Text

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P R 251820Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7565

UNCLAS MANAGUA 2901

USIAC

FOR: USIA ILA, IOP, IBS, IPS; STATE ARA/CEN, INR/RRA, S/P

E.O. 11652: NA

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR SHELTON

1. SOMOZA-OWNED MEDIA BEGAN TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR SHELTON ON JULY 21 WITH EDITORIALS EMPHASIZING THE TWO MOST OUTSTANDING EVENTS IN SHELTON'S CAREER IN NICARAGUA, THE SIGNING OF THE ABROGATION OF THE BRYAN-CHAMORRO TREATY AND HIS WORK TO AID VICTIMS OF THE EARTHQUAKE OF 1972.

2. IN AN EDITORIAL ON CHANNEL 6 AND THE NICARAGUAN NATIONAL RADIO NETWORK (7/22), BROADCASTER LUIS MANUEL MARTINEZ COMMENTED, " FROM THE EARLIEST HOURS OF THAT TRAGIC MORNING OF DECEMBER 23 (1972) SHELTON WAS DYNAMIC; HE SET IN MOTION THE RESOURCES OF HIS NATION. IT WAS THE EMERGENCY HOSPITALS, THE SOLDIERS, THE TOTALITY OF THE GENEROSITY OF HIS COUNTRY THAT GAVE US THE FIRST SIGN THAT WE WERE NOT ALONE IN OUR SUFFERING; THAT THE WORLD WAS WITH US, WILLING AND ABLE TO RESPOND."

3. EDITORIALS IN NOVEDADES ALSO PRAISED SHELTON'S EFFORTS AFTER THE EQRTHQUAKE IN THE TEMPER OF A HIGHLY LAUDATORY PIECE BY EDGAR SOLIS MARTINEZ, "SHELTON SURPASSED HIS STATURE AS SIMPLY A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FRIENDLY POWER; HE NEVER

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RESTED A MOMENT FROM ASKING, EVEN DEMANDING AID FOR NICARAGUA

IN ITS HOUR OF GREATEST HEED."

4. NOVEDADES (7/24) PUBLISHED A SPECIAL SECTION ON THE "DAY OF NATIONAL TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR SHELTON", FEATURING SPEECHES BY BOTH PRESIDENT SOMOZA AND AMBASSADOR SHELTON, AND PHOTO COVERAGE OF THE EVENT. THE NATIONAL NETWORK AND CHANNEL 6 PLAYED THE FULL PROGRAM OF SPEECHES.  
BARTON

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